

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in the application. Claims 15-24 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 25- 31 have been added in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicant regards as his invention. The Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated **May 14, 2003**.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by US 2003/0002797 (Chu et al).

Independent claim 1 is concurrently canceled herewith and dependent claims 2-7 are amended to depend on newly amended claim 8, rendering this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-14 are objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 8-14 is noted with appreciation. Claims 8 and 9 are made independent by incorporating the subject matter of independent claim 1 therein thus placed newly amended independent claims 8 and 9 in condition for allowance. By virtue of inherency, claims 10-14 which depend on newly amended claim 9 are also placed in condition for allowance.

New Claims

New claims 25-31 are added herein by amendment. Claim 25 is derived by incorporating the subject matter of claim 1 and the first portion of claim 8. The asserted prior art of record fails to disclose or teach a trigger comprising a pair of reflecting mirrors arranged in an opposed relation with a first waveguide interposed therebetween so that a control light is multiple-reflected between a pair of reflecting mirrors. Therefore, newly added claim 25 is placed in condition for allowance. All claims depending thereon, including claims 26-31, are also placed in condition for allowance. Claims 26-31 correspond with claims 2-7 deviating therefrom in that they depend on claim 25. No new matter is believed to be added. Allowance of newly added claims 25-31 is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Indicated To Be Pertinent To The Disclosure

The Office has provided a list of prior art indicated to be pertinent to the Applicant's invention. Consistent with the understanding as stipulated in MPEP 706.02 that only the best prior art should be applied, this list of prior art not having been applied by the Office, it is the Applicant's

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understanding that the Office must have considered the listed prior art to be no more pertinent than the applied prior art of record.

Conclusion

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, new claim 25, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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